

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 19, 2005, having a shortened statutory period set to expire December 19, 2005. In the present Amendment, Claims 1-24 are now pending.

Claim Objections

Examiner's objection to an informality in Claim 7 has been addressed by Applicants through a proposed amendment according to Examiner's suggestion.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the present Office Action, Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Regarding Claim 1, Applicants have proposed an amendment to remove "said data frame" and clarified that "said requesting adapter . . . transmits said concatenated slots of said identical size through said crossbar switch". Applicants believe that the proposed amendments to Claim 1 addresses Examiner's objection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the present Office Action, Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Iidaka et al.*, (U.S. Patent Number 5,528,590 – hereinafter referred to as *Iidaka*). After careful consideration of Examiner's remarks, Applicants have proposed an amendment to Claim 1 to incorporate the features claimed in previously allowed Claim 11.

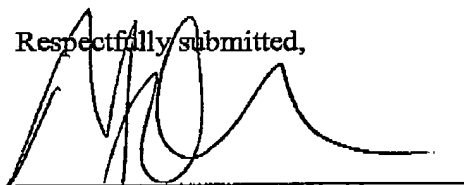
In light of the preceding argument, Applicants believe that independent Claim 1 and all dependent claims are not anticipated by *Iidaka*.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have diligently responded to the Office Action by amending the claims to overcome claim objections and clarify features within specific claims. Applicants have also amended the claims to § 112 and § 102 rejections. Since the amendments overcome the claim objections and also the § 112 and § 102 rejections, Applicants, respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims now pending.

Applicant further respectfully requests the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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